REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 3, and 21 have been further amended to more clearly recite that which Applicants regard as their invention. Support for the changes to independent claims 1 and 21 can be found, *inter alia*, in Figures 5 and 7. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to clarify that a first diffusion portion is located in a first disk, and that the first disk comprises a plurality of grooves formed in one side thereof. New claim 24 has been added. Support for new claim 24 can be found, *inter alia*, in original claims 1, 2 and 5. Claims 9 and 13-19 stand withdrawn from consideration. Claims 4-6 have been canceled. Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10-12 and 20-24 are presented for further examination.

The rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, has been rendered moot by the cancellation of this claim. New claim 24, which incorporates the essential features of original claim 5, relates to the single disk system as illustrated in Figure 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The indefiniteness rejection of claims 2, 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed overcome by the foregoing amendments to claims 2 and 3. Claim 5 has been canceled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1, 10 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Okase, US 5,884,009, the rejection of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Okase, and the rejection of claims 7, 8 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) as obvious over Okase in view of Fujikawa, US 5,595,606 are respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

The invention relates to a process system including a chamber, a supply plate, and first and second disks comprising first and second diffusion portions. According to independent claims 1 and 21, as amended, the second disk, on one side thereof, comprises a plurality of grooves (53a,53b) in fluid communication with each other and which extend radially from approximately the center of the second disk. An end portion of one of the grooves (53b) is in fluid communication with a through hole (52) formed in the first disk. The remaining grooves are in fluid communication with first through holes (54) formed in the second disk. According to the foregoing structure, gas flowing through the first gas flow passage can be evenly distributed throughout the center area of the hollow portion. See, e.g., Figures 5-8 of the instant application. Applicants respectfully submit that that the foregoing structural feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references.

The application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

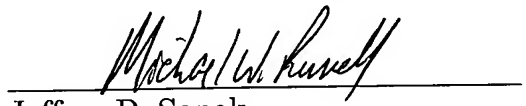
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #101246.52582US).

Respectfully submitted,

November 26, 2007



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